



**TO: All Providers**

**RE: USE OF ICD-10-CM “Z” CODES FOR SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH**

To better understand and respond to the needs of our HUSKY Health Members, the Department of Social Services (DSS) is strongly recommending inclusion of Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) data on Connecticut Medical Assistance Program (CMAP) claim submissions.

SDOH are conditions in an individual’s environment that affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes. Differences in health are striking in communities that lack access to stable and affordable housing, fresh and nutritious food, safe public spaces, high-quality education, and other resources.

DSS continues to explore payment models, such as value-based and acuity-based reimbursements that integrate factors that historically have not been submitted on claims. SDOH are critical to the long-term health outcomes of HUSKY Health Members and as such, DSS is seeking a more robust and comprehensive picture of the needs of individuals to inform future payment models.

SDOH will provide DSS a more comprehensive data set to identify, address and track health disparities over time. This data will aid in program development, analysis of gaps in care, and quality initiatives to improve health outcomes for HUSKY Health Members. This data is critical information to help connect HUSKY Health Members with appropriate supports and resources and will help forward our collective efforts to offer whole-person care.

DSS is requesting that providers who can supply Internal Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10

-CM) “Z” codes on claims for HUSKY Health Members do so, and that others identify internal processes or procedures to allow you to supply Z codes in the future. DSS expects that Z codes that are applicable would be identified during the natural sequence of engagement with a HUSKY Health Member.

**Z codes can be entered in any diagnosis field other than the primary diagnosis field.** If a Z code is used as a primary diagnosis, the claim will deny. CMAP providers can enter up to:

- Professional claims - 12 diagnosis codes
- Institutional claims - 26 diagnosis codes

on a claim. As a result, if there are multiple Z codes that apply to a HUSKY Health Member, please enter all that are relevant – in any field other than the primary diagnosis field. If there are no Z codes that apply to the HUSKY Health Member, you do not need to enter any, but we are asking all providers to thoughtfully consider available and applicable codes when submitting claims.

The addendum below provides a list of commonly identified Z codes; a more comprehensive list of all available Z codes can be found at:

<https://www.icd10data.com/ICD10CM/Codes/Z00-Z99>

### **FURTHER RESOURCES**

#### **ICD-10-CM Z Codes for Social Determinants of Health**

This resource describes ways standardized SDOH data can be used and provides a quick reference guide to which ICD-10-CM codes can help document standardized SDOH data.

<https://hiteqcenter.org/Resources/HITEQ-Resources/icd-10-z-codes-for-social-determinants-of-health>

### **Screening for Social Determinants of Health in Populations with Complex Needs:**

#### **Implementation Considerations**

This brief from the Center for Health Care Strategies reviews key considerations for organizations seeking to use SDOH data to improve patient care, including: selecting and implementing SDOH assessment tools; collecting patient-level information related to SDOH; creating workflows to track and address patient needs; and identifying social service resources and tracking referrals.

<https://www.chcs.org/media/SDOH-Complex-Care-Screening-Brief-102617.pdf>

If you have questions regarding this provider bulletin, please contact:

#### **For Medical**

Community Health Network of CT (CHNCT) at 1-800-440-5071, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

#### **For Behavioral Health**

Beacon Health Options at 1-877-552-8247

**Addendum**

Social Determinant Factor	Related Z Codes
<p><b>Housing:</b>  <b>Z59 – Problems related to housing and economic circumstances</b></p>	<p><u>Z59.0</u> Homelessness  <u>Z59.1</u> Inadequate housing  <u>Z59.2</u> Discord with neighbors, lodgers and landlord  <u>Z59.3</u> Problems related to living in residential institution  <u>Z59.4</u> Lack of adequate food and safe drinking water  <u>Z59.5</u> Extreme poverty  <u>Z59.6</u> Low income  <u>Z59.7</u> Insufficient social insurance and welfare support  <u>Z59.8</u> Other problems related to housing and economic circumstances  <u>Z59.9</u> Problem related to housing and economic circumstances, unspecified</p>
<p><b>Education Level:</b>  <b>Z55 – Problems related to education and literacy</b></p>	<p><u>Z55.0</u> Illiteracy and low-level literacy  <u>Z55.1</u> Schooling unavailable and unattainable  <u>Z55.2</u> Failed school examinations  <u>Z55.3</u> Underachievement in school  <u>Z55.4</u> Educational maladjustment and discord with teachers and classmates  <u>Z55.8</u> Other problems related to education and literacy  <u>Z55.9</u> Problems related to education and literacy, unspecified</p>
<p><b>Employment:</b>  <b>Z56 - Problems related to employment and unemployment</b></p>	<p><u>Z56.0</u> Unemployment, unspecified  <u>Z56.1</u> Change of job  <u>Z56.2</u> Threat of job loss  <u>Z56.3</u> Stressful work schedule  <u>Z56.4</u> Discord with boss and workmates  <u>Z56.5</u> Uncongenial work environment  <u>Z56.6</u> Other physical and mental strain related to work  <u>Z56.81</u> Sexual harassment on the job  <u>Z56.82</u> Military deployment status  <u>Z56.89</u> Other problems related to employment  <u>Z56.9</u> Unspecified problems related to employment</p>
<p><b>Social Environment:</b>  <b>Z60 – Problems related to social environment</b></p>	<p><u>Z60.0</u> Problems of adjustment to life-cycle transitions  <u>Z60.2</u> Problems related to living alone  <u>Z60.3</u> Acculturation difficulty  <u>Z60.4</u> Social exclusion and rejection  <u>Z60.5</u> Target of (perceived) adverse discrimination and persecution  <u>Z60.8</u> Other problems related to social environment  <u>Z60.9</u> Problem related to social environment, unspecified</p>

<p><b>Social Environment: Z63 – Problems related to Primary Support Group, including family circumstances</b></p>	<p><u>Z63.0</u> Problems in relationship with spouse or partner  <u>Z63.1</u> Problems in relationship with in-laws  <u>Z63.31</u> Absence of family member due to military deployment  <u>Z63.32</u> Other absence of family member  <u>Z63.4</u> Disappearance and death of family member  <u>Z63.5</u> Disruption of family by separation and divorce  <u>Z63.6</u> Dependent relative needing care at home  <u>Z63.71</u> Stress on family due to return of family member from military deployment  <u>Z63.72</u> Alcoholism and drug addiction in family  <u>Z63.79</u> Other stressful life events affecting family and household  <u>Z63.8</u> Other specified problems related to primary support group  <u>Z63.9</u> Problem related to primary support group, unspecified</p>
<p><b>Psychosocial Circumstances: Z65 – Problems related to other psychosocial circumstances</b></p>	<p><u>Z65.0</u> Conviction in civil and criminal proceedings without imprisonment  <u>Z65.1</u> Imprisonment and other incarceration  <u>Z65.2</u> Problems related to release from prison  <u>Z65.3</u> Problems related to other legal circumstances  <u>Z65.4</u> Victim of crime and terrorism  <u>Z65.5</u> Exposure to disaster, war and other hostilities  <u>Z65.8</u> Other specified problems related to psychosocial circumstances  <u>Z65.9</u> Problem related to unspecified psychosocial circumstances</p>
<p><b>Z91 - Personal risk factors, not elsewhere classified</b></p>	<p><u>Z91.4</u> Personal history of psychological trauma, not elsewhere classified  <u>Z91.41</u> Personal history of adult abuse  <u>Z91.410</u> Personal history of adult physical and sexual abuse  <u>Z91.411</u> Personal history of adult psychological abuse  <u>Z91.412</u> Personal history of adult neglect  <u>Z91.419</u> Personal history of unspecified adult abuse  <u>Z91.42</u> Personal history of forced labor or sexual exploitation  <u>Z91.49</u> Other personal history of psychological trauma, not elsewhere classified</p>